

Our Dead.

Grief cannot win them back;
And yet with frequent tears,
We bring round their cherished forms,
With thoughts of other years.
With love that neither death can share,
Hath power to save us here.
We cannot blot them out;
From memory's silent pages,
We cannot count them still, lost,
As birds to sooty seas,
We bid adieu to the old life,
That keeps us from those silent waters.
Oblivion may not have
Its seal upon their gray hairs,
There is no water we can dip,
Like to that which will wash
But fond affection's healing balm,
Breaks from us like the morning gale.
Ye are not dead to us—
But as bright as stars unseen,
We hold that ye are ever near,
Though death divides us.
Like a thin cloud that veils from sight
The countless spangles of the night.

My Mother.

Some gentlemen passing through a beautiful village of Boston, in the Vale of Leven, Dumfriesshire, about two o'clock at night, some time ago, called their attention directed to a churchyard. They asked him to ascertain what it was they saw. He answered, "A few years before, a man had been interred in a recently sold-out cemetery, and lay in his grave. Thinking this must have led for him, they shock him up, and asked him how he came there. He said he was afraid to go home, as his sister, with whom he resided, had threatened to beat him. "And where does your sister live?" asked one of the party. "In Dumfriesshire—nearly three miles out, and how came you to wander so far away from home?" "I just came," sobbed the poor little fellow, "because my mother's grave was here." His mother had been buried there a short time before, and his seeking a refuge at her grave in his sorrow, was a beautiful touch of nature, in a child who could scarcely have yet learned to realize the true character of that separation which knows of no reunion on earth. Thither had he instinctively wandered to solace his sorrows, and to moisten with tears the grave of one who had hitherto been his natural protection; for he had evidently cried himself asleep.—*North British Mail.*

Revenge.

Two men in the south of Africa swore eternal hatred to each other, one of them found, one day, the little daughter of his enemy in the wood. He ran quickly to the girl, cut off two of her fingers, and sent her home bleeding, whilst he, with brutal joy, shouted, "I have had my revenge!"

Years passed, and the little girl was grown up to a woman; when, one day, a poor grey-headed beggar came to her door, earnestly begging for food. The young woman recognized him immediately as being the same horrid man who had cut off her fingers when she was a child. She went into the cottage instantly, and desired her servant to bring him bread and milk, as much as he wanted. She sat down near him, and watched him while he ate. When he had finished, and was ready to go, she pointed to her hand and said to him, "I, too, have had my revenge!"

The poor man was quite perplexed and confounded at this; for he did not know that that little girl had become a Christian, and had learnt the meaning of that sweet verse, the last in the twelfth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. Which revenge was the sweetest?

To Preachers.

Be short and lively. Load up before you enter the sacred desk; announce your text, when the time comes, with distinctness, and dash right into the discussion. Fire at point blank range. Keep your eye on that drowsy hearer until he becomes wide-awake. Hold the children and those restless young folks under good command. Strike a portion to the aged ones, who try so hard to catch every syllable you utter; and, under some of modern pulpit orators, lose about half *"Stir all the people!"* "Shake off dull sloth," in manner and tone. Be in earnest—tremendously in earnest! Time is passing; eternity is near; judgment is at the door! *Make an impression!* If you can, inside of thirty minutes; if not, ask God to give his blessing and close.

A Startling Fact.

Eighty-eight per cent, of those converted now, in communities where Christian privileges are fully enjoyed, are saved at

20 years of age and under, according to observations made by the writer in 119 cases of conversion. Of this whole number, but four were more than 25 years of age; at the time of their great change; two were over 25 years and under 40; one was above 40, and under 50; and one was 81 years old. Many aged sinners seek God now, assured that they will not be cast out, if they do so with the whole heart. But let the young take warning from the evidence found in every community, that but few comparatively, ever seek God, who harden their hearts and strengthen the habit of procrastination by resisting the calls of the Holy spirit through more than a score of years.

L. A. Clegg.

The Charleston Advocate.

CHARLESTON, S. C., MARCH 13, 1877.

A word to our friends.

We have sent the Advocate to many of our friends, both North and South, since we commenced its publication, telling confident they would add it to our enterprise at least by their subscription.

A few have promptly responded, by sending in \$100 and deferring wishes for our success; of these conditions, the triumph of the cause we advocate.

We are very desirous that our friends, who have already but a small selection seem not to be satisfied; we instances, except the friends?—Sister this number we shall be obliged, though reluctantly to stop the "Advertiser" to those who have not suffered till we hear from them. We shall watch the soonest morn with interest, "Drop me a line if you wish to see me," as the fish said to the Angler.

T. W. Lewis.

A. Webster.

The People of South Carolina.

When it was announced, a short time since, that citizens of this state were proposing congress for a territorial government, which should grant to all, irrespective of color, the right to vote, and that the press of this city cheered

at the movement as a "black lantern" affair, and in the name of the people of South Carolina, I demanded to know who the petitioners were. But subsequent events have been teaching some of our daily papers of the city a new lesson in regard to the people of this state. It was a great mistake, as far as our state was concerned, when President Johnson, in his "Veto Message," assumed that the Bill designed to secure a more efficient government to the states recently in rebellion, forced upon the people the adoption of organic laws and regulations which they would never accept, if left to themselves. This Bill puts into the hands of the people the opportunity never before enjoyed here, to say what kind of organic laws and regulations they prefer for themselves. They are to have this right without any restrictions on the account of race or complexion.

The organic laws and regulations heretofore existing in this state, deprived a majority of the people of the state of all political rights and privileges. They had no voice in a government that held them in the iron grasp of a relentless despotism. And recent events have demonstrated that those who have been thus made the victims of a ruling minority, were the only loyal people of the state; those who would gladly feed Union men while their masters would starve them, and at the peril of their lives, would defend the national flag when assailed and dismasted by the bloody hand of treason. Can any one suppose that it would be just and right for our government to enthrone these oppressors and traitors, as being the same horrible men who had cut off her fingers when she was a child. She sat down near him, and watched him while he ate. When he had finished, and was ready to go, she pointed to her hand and said to him, "I, too, have had my revenge!"

The poor man was quite perplexed and confounded at this; for he did not know that that little girl had become a Christian, and had learnt the meaning of that sweet verse, the last in the twelfth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. Which revenge was the sweetest?

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wise decreed, and the sovereign ple er, would do if they could. They are to be henceforth the ruling power, constantly saying "we accept the situation," but it is always as *they understand* it, and it is amusing to one who has a keen sense of the ridiculous, to see these southern politicians and editors wriggle to "accept the position," but always a little *too late*. If Gov. Orr, Reverdy Johnson, Gov. Brown of Ga., and the *Charleston Daily News*, had advocated patiently toiling in their usual pursuits, for the comfort and improvement, in the usual places of religious worship, they have thanked God for the bright prospect that throws its radiance on the sky of their political horizon more fully, for the precious hope of a bright home in heaven. They have great lessons of faith and trust in God in the school of adversity, in which they have been so long trained. They are patient and forbearing when the Government was so slow to recognize the rights and relieve them from the *just but brief* of oppression, and theyed faith in God, that the time of their freedom would ultimately come.

As they are now being enfranchised and invested with new powers, they ill-use these powers with caution and prudence, and many of them, in the name of God, and with a single eye to his glory. Wild as life, inexperienced and ignorant, they will nevertheless, to the ballot for the purpose of their own enfranchisement, or to place influence in those who would be ignorant and revert Christianity, to vindicate people to human humanity. The rebels did not dare to trust them to fight to perpetuate their own bondage, and fearing that they will know too much to vote for a like object, they are reluctant to stop the "Advertiser" to those who have not suffered till we hear from them. We shall watch the soonest morn with interest, "Drop me a line if you wish to see me," as the fish said to the Angler.

The colored man is now invested with rights which the white man is bound to respect, and though of necessity ignorant of education, they will nevertheless, to the ballot for the purpose of their own enfranchisement, or to place influence in those who would be ignorant and revert Christianity, to vindicate people to human humanity. The rebels did not dare to trust them to fight to perpetuate their own bondage, and fearing that they will know too much to vote for a like object, they are reluctant to stop the "Advertiser" to those who have not suffered till we hear from them. We shall watch the soonest morn with interest, "Drop me a line if you wish to see me," as the fish said to the Angler.

L.

Advice gratis.

Under the Sherman bill, the negroes will vote *anyhow*, and as the South cannot prevent their voting, it is more desirable to leap into the saddle and be the rider, than to be saddled and ridden as the horse. For the great body of the South to be inactive now, is precisely what the Radicals desire, since it would enable them to control all Southern elections, and reorganize the States in their own party interest. Inactivity now, as we look at it, would be neither wise nor masterly, but suicidal. It would longer block the Radical game, but justify it. But if, on the other hand, the South will promptly meet the situation, the helm of the negro voter, and steer it, the Radicals will have to paddle their own canoe without black assistance. Congress, when it does return, with some twenty additional members as a consequence of emancipation, and all of them faithful representatives of Southern people?"

The above extract from the New York *World*, is an instance of that crazy folly which the South has fallen into in endeavoring to establish a wrong and wicked policy. It is a gross absurdity to suppose that the negro can ever be induced to vote against his interest, and to saddle and ride" him, will be found as impossible as to saddle and ride a horse before he is caught. The negro will listen rather to his true friends, for he knows the voice of his shepherd and will follow him, but a hireling will be no follower, but will flee from him."

The hireling may come, but he will not only be left without his sheep around him, but left standing in the mud, *minus a horse to ride*. We think, therefore, that "inactivity" and "silence" will be the most suitable part for that portion of our poor, deluded and unfortunate fellow citizens to play in the coming performance.

R.

BAKER INSTITUTE.

The closing lecture of the course for the present session of the Baker Theological Institute, was delivered on Monday evening last, by Rev. T. W. Lewis, subject: "Superstition." The lecturer displayed his facile talent in guiding from grave to gay, or lively or severe, and commanded the undividing interest of his appreciative audience for an hour and a quarter. He showed up the popular superstitions of the day in their vein light, from the spirit rappings of the Rochester Foxes, down to the ominous ticking of the death watch in the wall. Before he was half through, he completely demolished our faith in the signs of the times. "A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign, but there shall be no sign given them." Paul said to the Athenians—"I perceive in all things ye are too superstitious." M.

John's Island.

We paid a visit on last Sabbath to the new Methodist Church on John's Island. We found the house crowded, all listening reverently and attentively to a sermon from their pastor, Rev. Mr. Townsend. As soon as he was through, the audience was addressed by Chaplain French, Gen. Scott, and H. Judge Moore,

As this was Gen. Scott's first visit to that place, they were all anxious to see him, and hear what he had to say to them. He gave them much excellent advice, and we think, from the frequent and hearty responses, that it will be treasured up and heeded. Rev. Mr. French was also very full and pointed in his exposition of their duty and obligations. The congregation was well dressed, attentive and intelligent, and seem to appreciate and improve their privileges.

Charleston News and Universal Suffrage.

It is refreshing to one knowing the antecedents of this paper, to read its Editorials of the present week. It endorses Gov. Brown,—Enthuses Gen. Scott, recommends concurring the favor of the Military—counseling with the Freedmen, assuring us that they will not thereby lose their self-respect,—believes white and black men can co-operate together, and that the Radicals have no disposition to stir up "a war between the races." What did the *News* think and say about these questions six months ago? Verify the World moves.

F. Rev. Jannay Felder, called at our sanctum, this week on his way to Fernandina Fla., where he was appointed by the late session of the S. C. Mission Conference. One Florida brethren will find Bro. Felder a giant in our Israel. The Lord go with him.

Morris Street Baptist Church.

The ordinance of Baptism was administered by Rev. Jacob Legare, pastor of this church, to sixty-three candidates, last sabbath. Their house of worship has been unable to accommodate the great numbers usually present at such times, and on this occasion they repaired to the water-side, where amid hundreds of orderly and deeply interested spectators, the ordinance was administered. His Honor the Mayor kindly furnished a detachment of police to maintain order if there should be any disturbance, but perfect quiet prevailed.

Colored Men Voting.

Colored men have voted at last in the Old Dominion. Virginia must suffer this justice whether she will or not, or is it liable to argue violently against the stern logic of such hard things as events. The voting done by negroes in Alexandria recently was the shadow of a good thing so much like the substance that we scarcely care to recognize the difference. It is true their votes are not to be counted in by the election commissioners, but it is nevertheless true that they had polls of their own, and voted peacefully and manfully. The formal question has arisen as to whether these votes shall now be counted; but the question is a Virginia one. The black men have shown their perfect ability to estimate themselves as well as their votes, and the solution is virtually reached. The grand jury of the country have decided their perfect eligibility, and it only remains for them to take possession of their own, we shall have the event.

SIR ROBERT PEELE.

When Robert Peel, then a youth, began business as a cotton-printer, near Bury, he lodged with his partner, William Yates, paying eight shillings and sixpence per week for board and lodging. "William Yates' eldest child," says our author, "was a girl named Ellen, and she very soon became the favorite with the young lodger. On returning home from his hard day's work at 'The Ground,' he would take the little girl upon his knee, and say to her, 'Nelly thou bonny little dear, wilt thou be my wife?' to which the child would readily answer, 'Yes!' as any child would, then I'll wait for thee, Nelly; I'll wed thee, and none else." And Robert Peel did wait. As the girl grew in beauty towards womanhood, his determination to wait for her was strengthened, and after the lapse of ten years—years of close application to business and rapidly increasing prosperity—Robert Peel married Ellen Yates when she had completed her seventeenth year; and the pretty child, whom her mother's lodger and father's partner had nursed upon his knee, became Mrs. Peel, and eventually, Lady Peel, the mother of the future Prime Minister of England.

Lady Peel was a noble and beautiful woman, fitted to grace any station in life. She possessed rare powers of mind, and was, on every emergency, the high-toned and faithful counsellor of her husband. For many years after their marriage, she acted as his amanuensis, conducting the principal part of his business corres-

pondence, for Robert Peel himself was an indifferent and almost unintelligible writer. She died in 1803, only three years after the baronetcy had been conferred upon her husband. It is said, that London fashionable life—so unlike what she had been accustomed to—proved injurious to her health; and old William Yates was accustomed to say, "If Robert hadn't made our Nelly a 'Lady,' she might ha' been living yet." —*Self-Help.*

The proceedings of the European Parliaments are this year of more than ordinary importance. In England the reform question has never before assumed so important a character as at present, and the world will therefore listen with unusual interest to the debates on the Government Reform bill. In Germany, the first Parliament of the North German Confederation assembled on the 23d of February, and the Austrian Parliament will be open in a few days. The action of both will have a far-going influence upon the reconstruction of Central Europe.

In Eastern Europe, the Turkish Government at length sees the impossibility of further opposition to progress and reform, and therefore has convened an assembly of representatives of all the religious bodies to aid it in the execution of the most necessary reforms.

In Italy, in France, in Russia, in Sweden, and (in the probable case of a successful revolution) in Spain, the proceedings of the representative assemblies promise likewise to be of uncommon interest.—*Methodist.*

The Military Commanders.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—*First Dispatch.* The present understanding is that Schofield will command the 1st, Sickles the 2nd, Thomas the 3d and 4th, and Sheridan the 5th districts. No instruction will accompany the assignments except a copy of the law.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The headquarters of the District Commanders will be as follows: General Schofield, Richmond; General Sickles, Columbia; General Thomas, Montgomery; General Ord, Vicksburg, and General Sheridan, New Orleans. The powers of all departmental commanders are delegated to the above-named District Commanders.

Mr. Atwood's report shows 1,592 among the freedmen, 1,868 teachers (881 of whom are colored,) with 91,121 pupils. The amount of tuition paid by freedmen during November last was \$10,109.30 for 10,119 pupils.

The Alabama House of Representatives has passed a bill to establish a system of public schools for colored people and white alike, except that schools for each shall be separate in each school district.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN was slowly educated, in his anti-slavery sentiments by the *Richmond Enquirer* and *Charleston Mercury*, which he took and read regularly for fifteen years before he was elected President.

ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP A COLORED BOY IN NORFOLK Va.

Considerable excitement was created in Norfolk on Saturday the 2d inst., arising out of an attempt made by a schooner captain to kidnap a young colored boy. The mother of the boy made a complaint to the Mayor of the city, who caused the arrest of the Captain, and bound him over in \$5,000 bail to answer before the Court.

Gov. Brownlow has just issued a proclamation announcing his intention to call out the militia to enforce the laws and protect Union men and all citizens against evil doers.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, is urging the acceptance of the Reconstruction bill, Negro suffrage and all, upon his State.

EMIGRATION.—The colored people of Charlotte have formed an anti-emigration society to prevent, as far as possible, the emigration of colored people from that state. They insist that North Carolina colored citizens should remain at home to develop the resources of their own state.

"By news from Anderson to-night (March 9), we learn that Governor Orr will call the Legislature together at once, to consider the call of a Convention."

[Carolina Spartan.]

M. E. CHURCH SERVICES IN NEW ORLEANS.—The Louisiana House of Representatives have kindly granted the use of their hall to the congregation of the M. E. Church, for divine service during the erection of their church edifice.